FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION



WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

NEWS RELEASE

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:

Barbara A. Connors (202) 208-0680

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 26, 1999

Docket Nos. ER96-2573-001, et al.

COMMISSION SUBJECTS POWER MARKETERS TO SAME FILING RULES AS THOSE APPLIED TO PUBLIC UTILITIES

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission took steps today to subject power marketers to the same filing requirements as those applied to traditional public utilities with market-based rate authority. The Commission directed power marketers to join traditional public utilities in filing long-term transaction agreements within 30 days after service begins. Long-term agreements are those lasting longer than one year.

The Commission emphasized that this is not a new filing requirement for power marketers. Rather, today's action rescinds a waiver generally granted to power marketers of the requirement to file long-term transaction agreements.

The Commission noted that for short-term transactions traditional public utilities and power marketers currently have the same reporting requirements through quarterly reports. The Commission noted that today's revision (which is based on the type of transaction, not the type of seller) would eliminate the disparity in reporting requirements for long-term transaction and thus would further competition.

"This Commission's pursuit of increased competition in the power markets raises the difficult issue of timely disclosure of key market information", said FERC Chairman James J. Hoecker.

"As various entities compete for market share, it is important

R-99-31

(more)

that regulatory requirements be appropriate and as comparable as possible."

The Commission will stay the effectiveness of this order until interested parties have an opportunity to request rehearing of the policy change.

R-99-31 (30)